

***Sermon Title:* BRING BACK THE WANDERERS**

Date: November 10, 2024 - James 5:19-20

Central Idea: Unless the believer stays close to the truth, he will start to drift away. Do you find yourself drifting? Do you know someone who seems to be wandering?

Introduction: While James did not specifically name prayer in these verses, the implication is there. If we pray for the afflicted and the sick, surely we must pray for the brother who wanders from the truth. These verses deal with our ministry to a fellow believer who strays from the truth and falls into sin. The verb “to wander” suggests gradual moving away from the will of God.

I. Wandering from the Truth, v. 19

Four Kinds of Hearts: Luke 8

1. The Hard Heart, Luke 8: 5, 12
2. The Shallow Heart, Luke 8: 6, 13
3. The Infested Heart, Luke 8: 7, 14
4. The Fertile Heart, Luke 8: 8, 15

II. Restoring the Wanderers, v. 20

III. Ministry of Restoration

1. Love
2. Integrity
3. Prayer
4. Confrontation
5. Discipline

Conclusion: The best way to handle this issue is to take your own inventory—not to have to wait until somebody comes and says, “Hey, you’ve wandered,” but to get alone with God and say, “You know what? I have wandered. I’m not where I once was. I used to be more zealous, and I was far more interested in reading my Bible.”